REMARKS

The foregoing amendments have been made preliminary to the examination of this application in order to present the application with the proper recommended headings, paragraph numbering, corrected claim dependency, and a proper Abstract, all consistent with current U.S. practice and procedures. References in the original specification to claims by number have been deleted and, where appropriate, the actual language of the claim has been inserted. The substance of the application has not been changed.

Respectfully submitted,

Karl S. Sawyer, Jr.

Kennedy Covington Lobdell & Hickman LLP

Hearst Tower, 47th Floor

214 N. Tryon Street

Charlotte, North Carolina 28202

Telephone (704) 331-7400

-- Attorney for Applicants